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The newspaper of Silicon Valley

The Mercury News

BayArea NewsGroup 111

Volume 167, issue 169

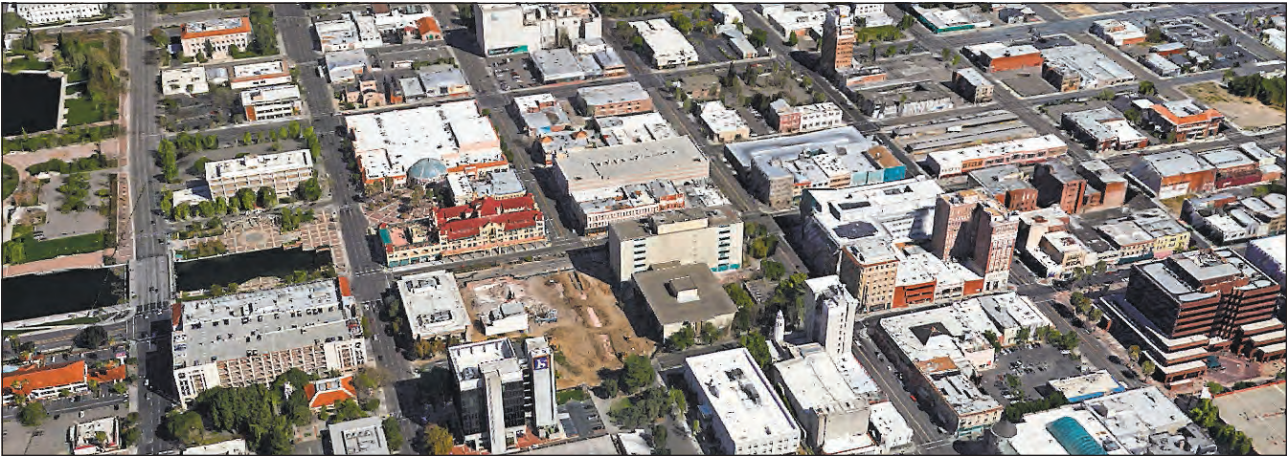
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017

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92% INCREASE PAST 5 YEARS

Home prices in one California city have risen faster than anywhere in the United States. That city is ...



GOOGLE MAPS

... STOCKTON

Going up! Former ‘most miserable city’ benefiting from tight housing market in Bay Area and often out-of-reach cost of living

By Marisa Kendall
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As home prices skyrocket across the state, there's one California city where they've shot up more than anywhere else in the U.S. — nearly doubling in the past five years.

No, it's not San Francisco, San Jose or Oakland. It's not even in the Bay Area.

It's Stockton, the Central Valley community twice dubbed America's "most miserable" city by Forbes Magazine because of its high rates of housing foreclosures, unemployment and

WHERE HOME PRICES ARE SOARING

Of the 100 largest metropolitan areas, these saw the biggest increases over the past five years (California cities in bold):

1. Stockton/Lodi	92%
2. Oakland/Hayward/Berkeley	86%
3. Las Vegas/Henderson/Paradise	85%
4. San Francisco/Redwood City/South San Francisco	77%
5. Seattle/Bellevue/Everett	75%
6. Sacramento/Roseville/Arden/Arcade	74%
7. North Port/Sarasota/Bradenton, Fla.	72%
8. Riverside/San Bern'dino/Ontario	71%
9. Cape Coral/Fort Myers, Fla.	70%
10. West Palm Beach/Boca Raton/Delray Beach, Fla.	69%

Source: The Federal Housing Finance Agency

violent crime.

The jump in home prices in Stockton and neighboring Lodi — up about 92 percent over the past five years — is dramatic evidence of the ripple effects of the Bay Area's tight housing market and the increasingly out-of-reach cost of living here. As people flee San Francisco and Silicon Valley in search of cheaper housing — heading to places such as Stockton, Oakland and Sacramento — prices in those second-tier markets are rising.

“There's flight away from ar-

STOCKTON » PAGE 8



DAI SUGANO — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Katrina Gonzalez, 25, left San Jose earlier this year and moved to Stockton because it was the closest city where she and her husband could afford to buy a home.



DOUG DURAN — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Data from the Federal Housing Finance Agency show Stockton is atop the list of the country's 100 biggest metropolitan areas where home prices have increased.

SACRAMENTO SCANDAL

Accuser names Capitol harasser

Lobbyist identifies L.A.-area assemblyman who she says exposed himself, blocked exit

By Katy Murphy
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SACRAMENTO » Casting aside her fears that she would be professionally shunned, a Sacramento lobbyist on Monday named Assemblyman Matt Dababneh as the lawmaker who exposed himself to her in a hotel bathroom last year and blocked her from leaving.

“As scary as it is for me to step forward,” lobbyist Pamela Lopez said, “I can't have it on my conscience that I didn't do everything that I could do to stop him from hurting other women in the future.”

Dababneh, a 36-year-old unmarried Democrat, is the third sitting lawmaker to be publicly accused of sexual assault or harassment in recent weeks. The accusations have surfaced since the launch of a powerful “We Said Enough” campaign by female lobbyists and legislative staffers

HARASSMENT » PAGE 7



“It was a terrifying experience. ... my instincts were focused on escaping without physical contact and in a way that would not cause a scene.”

— Pamela Lopez, lobbyist



RICH PEDRONCELLI — ASSOCIATED PRESS

Assemblyman Matt Dababneh, left, talks to colleague Raul Bocanegra, who resigned last week while facing sexual harassment allegations.

BAY AREA STUDY

Melting polar ice linked to threat of worsening drought

By Lisa M. Krieger
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Polar bears aren't the only ones in trouble from the Arctic's melting ice.

A new study by Bay Area scientists concludes that Californians could face reduced rainfall — and worse droughts — by the continuing loss of sea ice.

Their computer analyses show a 10 to 15 percent average decrease in California's rainfall in the coming decades. The culprit, scientists now believe, is a link between the melting ice and the buildup of massive high pressure systems that park off the California coast and block Pacific storms.

Precipitation that is rightfully ours will instead veer northwards, falling on Alaska and Canada, according to the team from Lawrence Livermore

ICE » PAGE 8

LEASE NOT RENEWED

Holiday shock: Seniors forced out

Willow Glen facility: 80 residents, some with dementia, seek new homes

By Marisa Kendall
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SAN JOSE » When 94-year-old Emma Magnuson moved into her room at an assisted living facility this year, she figured she would stay there for the rest of her life.

Instead, with the holidays fast approaching, Magnuson and the 80 other seniors who live in Atria Chateau Gardens in Willow Glen have suddenly learned they will soon be out of a home.

The center is closing its doors after landlord Westlake Realty Group refused to renew its lease, according to Atria, and indicated there are new — and perhaps more profitable — plans

SENIORS » PAGE 8



DAN HONDA — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Resident Ruth LeBas, 80, right, who lives with her husband at Atria Chateau Gardens, hugs Cyndy Thomas, whose 94-year-old mother is a resident.

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